



## DEVOTIONAL TIME

07-17-2015 @ 0900

**"Trust in God Alone, or Suffer Painful Judgment!"**

Isaiah 10:20-23

### THE BATTLE BELONGS TO THE LORD!

In Heavenly Armor we'll enter the land; the Battle belongs to the Lord!  
No weapon that's fashioned against us will stand; the Battle belongs to the Lord!  
And we sing, "Glory, Honor, Power, and Strength to the Lord!"  
We sing, "Glory, Honor, Power, and Strength to the Lord!"

### Isaiah 10:20-23

"A Time is coming when the people of Israel who have survived will not rely any more on the nation that almost destroyed them! They will truly put their trust in the **LORD**, Israel's holy God. A few of the people of Israel will come back to their mighty God! Even though there are now as many people of Israel as there are grains of sand by the sea, only a few will come back! Destruction is in store for the people, and it is fully deserved! Yes, throughout the whole country, the Sovereign **LORD** Almighty will bring destruction, as He said He would!"

### QUESTIONS FOR TODAY

- How would you rate your T.Q. (Trust Quotient) at the moment? Where are you "placing trust"? Who is your "primary Guide" in life? Who receives the bulk of your attention and time?
- When you sense a "need for God", how quickly do you engage your spiritual "repertoire" of prayer, praise, thanks, contrition, and of course, intercession?
- Does God's Word offer you "Promise of Deliverance" and "Assurance of Restoration" when the "storms of life" manifest all around you? Will you stand secure in "Times of Testing"?

God always sustains the "faithful". That does not mean their faith goes "untested"; it means they will come through the tests life may hold. Those whose trust is firm will find "deliverance" and restoration from the "Sovereign Lord Almighty". The others, who seek "guidance" and "salvation" elsewhere, are likely to be bitterly disappointed. Worse still, as Isaiah indicates, they face the bitter prospect of utter destruction of all they hold dear. It is instructive to remember that the people of Israel in the day of Isaiah had all sorts of advantages in the realm of faith. They had the great Temple in Jerusalem as the principal "holy Place" to glorify God. Their rabbis had the Law of Moses to instruct them in the way to live the Covenant made at Sinai. The land itself was a vivid reminder of their privileged status in the Plan of God. But many of them had chosen to ignore all these blessings. They had grown used to paying "lip service" to the requirements of the Temple worship and the Law. They used the land selfishly and unjustly to increase personal wealth and oppress the disadvantaged. The Lord sent them prophets to call them to "course correction", but they largely ignored these warnings. The nation was headed to disaster at the time of Isaiah. Spiritual decline and moral decay weakened the society from within, and multiple enemies threatened it from outside. It was time to "put up or shut up", and Isaiah laid out the case plainly. Some of Israel eventually "caught a clue," and the Kingdom of Judah got a "new lease on life" for a time, but their descendants picked the wrong time to annoy the Babylonians, not once, but twice, resulting in utter ruination and exile that lasted 70 years. We would do well to learn Isaiah's "lessons"! God, grant us the Grace of "Unconditional Trust"! When our whole world is in flux, teach us to turn to You quickly and rest in Your Grace quietly. Once we've allowed You to "recharge our spiritual/moral 'batteries'", send us again to our wider world as a truly "prophetic people", faithfully transmitting Your Word in the lives we live, both in speech and action!